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AUTHOR	Worsham, Sandra
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ABSTRACT

This book is designed for teachers who are looking for approaches to make the teaching of writing fresh. The book offers suggestions for writing that are appropriate across the curriculum and for students in Grades K-12. It contains ideas for enlivening students' writing experiences, including an innovative use of the "helping circle." It advises teachers to explore the differences between what the author calls "school" writing and "real" writing and explains how teachers can make both forms work for students. The book contends that successful writing must: appeal to the senses; make use of the author's locale and sense of place; spring from memory and stories; and experience revision and expansion. Student writing samples from actual assignments illustrate key points in the book. A chapter on creating a warm classroom atmosphere gives practical tips on enhancing writing in a collaborative setting. In addition, writing assignments that work across the disciplines guarantee that the book will be useful not only for writing teachers, but for all teachers who use writing as part of their curriculum. Some of the proven teaching tips and strategies that the book outlines are: ideas for preparing the classroom for writing; activities that promote prewriting and rough drafting; steps to encourage students to help each other improve their work; and publishing strategies and creative writing exercises that get students hooked on writing. (Contains 79 references and resources.) (NKA)

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